

FOCAL POINT

Expenses & Revenue

I could have titled this "Investment and Return". Frisco has always been proud to boast about having one of the lowest tax rates in the region. Cumulatively, Frisco has saved taxpayer dollars consistently over the last decade. Those tax dollars were left in the hands of our residents to do with as they pleased.

MAYOR'S
MESSAGE
**MAYOR
MAHER MASO**

Most have re-invested in the community and stimulated our local economy by purchasing items in our retail stores, improving their homes (and thus, home values) or simply increasing their savings. That is how it should be – keeping more of the money you worked hard for instead of being told to give it to government.

As you know, Frisco has two major revenue sources and several smaller revenue sources. The two major revenue sources are property taxes and sales tax. Under current economic conditions, both sources are not growing at the same pace they have in the past.

How has Frisco kept the property tax rate lower than most of our neighboring communities while building much needed infrastructure and facilities? The answer lies in several areas. One way we have managed to keep our taxes low is our city's continued growth. With each new person who moves to Frisco, both property values and sales tax revenue are impacted.

This is the second reason I believe our taxes remain low: Investment. When we reinvest in our community, we are able to maintain a higher quality of life which attracts even more people who want to move here. Some of our past investments include building public safety facilities, roads, parks, a senior center, a library, a heritage center and museum, not to mention the installation of numerous public art

See **MAYOR**, page 2

Frisco Parks & Recreation Department TRAPS 2010 Gold Medal Recipient

Spring is in the air! Explore and enjoy the great outdoors with Frisco's award-winning Parks & Recreation Department.

Frisco recently received the Gold Medal Award for 'Excellence in Parks and Recreation Management' from the Texas Recreation & Park Society (TRAPS). The honor was announced March 5 at the TRAPS Annual Institute and Trade Show, which was held this year at the Frisco Conference Center.

This is the second time Frisco



has received the prestigious honor. The department was also named TRAPS Gold Medal Award winner in 2007.

"We are honored to be recognized by our peers in the Parks and Recreation profession. To be the recipient of not one, but two gold medals within the last three years is quite an honor," said Frisco's Director of Parks and Recreation Rick Wieland. "We are so proud of our management team and

See **GOLD**, page 5



Frisco selected as new host site for NCAA Division I Football National Championship Game

Frisco is the new host city for the 2010 NCAA Division I Football Championship game, which will be played at Pizza Hut Park on January 7, 2011. The NCAA announced February 28 that the 23,500-seat multi-purpose stadium will be the host site for the championship game for the next three years.

"Touchdown! We can't wait for college football to come to Frisco," said Mayor Maher Maso. "Frisco is a sports town and a Division I Football Championship is another chance for sports fans everywhere to not only experience great football but to also discover all our community has to offer. We also want to thank folks from all over the country who supported our bid effort."

Less than five weeks ago, Frisco launched an online pledge

drive inviting football fans to show their support for the effort to move the championship games to Pizza Hut Park. Frisco received pledges from people living in 103 cities throughout Texas and from 17 other states. Frisco estimated the pledges represented more than 8,000 tickets.

"Pizza Hut Park and Hunt Sports Group couldn't be more excited to host the NCAA Division I Football games," said John Wagner, President, Hunt Sports Group. "Along with Southland Conference and the City of Frisco, we look forward to showcasing our venue and our city."

The local organizing committee consists of the City of Frisco,

See **NCAA**, page 2



CollegeFootballFrisco.com

Touchdown! College football is coming to Frisco. Leading the 'Team Frisco' efforts are (left to right): Hunt Sports Group President John Wagner, Mayor Maher Maso, Southland Conference Commissioner Tom Burnett

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Frisco Police to host
'Fingerprint Fair' on April 17

The Frisco Police Department, its officers, dispatchers, and police volunteers will be hosting a Fingerprint Fair on April 17 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the police headquarters building, located at 7200 Stonebrook Pkwy.

The police department encourages parents with children ages 12 and younger to stop by during in order to have a complete identification card created for each child. The identification card can be used in emergencies to help locate and identify missing children.

The police department will perform the fingerprinting and collection of DNA information, and a photographer will be providing free photographs to place on the identification cards. In addition, there will be face painters, a storyteller, free



Kids, help McGruff the Crime Dog 'take a bite out of crime' by having your very own identification card made at the Frisco Police Department's first Fingerprint Fair on April 17.

popcorn and drinks, and visits by Cell Phone Sally and McGruff the Crime Dog.

Frisco police hope that the fair will be a success and will turn into an annual event. Bring your family and enjoy spending time with some of Frisco's first responders.

NCAA

Continued from page 1

its Economic Development Corporation and Convention & Visitors Bureau, Hunt Sports Group/Pizza Hut Park, the Frisco Chamber of Commerce and Frisco based Southland Conference.

"The Southland Conference is honored and privileged to serve as the host conference for the NCAA Division I Football Championship Game," said Southland Commissioner Tom Burnett. "Since beginning the planning process last August, our Team Frisco local organizing committee has worked diligently to bring this national championship to Pizza Hut Park. We also knew from the start our community would support this effort. Given all the built-in advantages of Frisco and the greater Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area, we always felt confident the NCAA would be attracted to what we

were offering the game."

Frisco emerged from a pool of several cities that submitted bids to serve as the host site for the championship games, beginning with the 2010 season. The championship game will be the culmination of a newly expanded 20-team championship bracket. As a result of this expansion, the game will be played a few weeks later than in years past.

The Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), formerly known as Division I-AA, includes the conferences and institutions that compete in the NCAA Division I Football Championship, in addition to two conferences who choose not to participate in the football championship, the Ivy League and the Southwestern Athletic Conference. The FCS embodies a tradition of excellence through high level competition, student athlete character and sportsmanship throughout the regular season and the championship experience.

The decision to award the championship site to Frisco, Texas, was recommended by

the Division I Football Championship Committee and approved by the Administrative Committee of the Division I Championships/Sports Management Cabinet.

"We are excited about the opportunity for the football championship game to be played in Frisco," said Damani Leech, NCAA director of baseball and football. "With the quality of bids that were submitted, it was not an easy decision to make. But we feel the right decision and right place to serve as the site for the Division I football championship is indeed Frisco."

Tickets are not available for sale at this time. Ticket information will be released as soon as more details come from the NCAA. In the meantime, express your interest in buying tickets by signing up for the 'pledge drive' at FriscoCollegeFootball.com.

For more information on the NCAA Division I Football Championship, log on to NCAA.com/football.

MAYOR

Continued from page 1

pieces, and the list goes on.

Our voters overwhelmingly passed bonds measures supporting these capital investments, which is why our residents have expectations for quality development as we work together to build a sustainable community.

What about venues that are not considered part of our "normal" infrastructure? Pizza Hut Park? Dr Pepper Stadium? Dr Pepper Arena? Fieldhouse USA? Frisco Conference Center? Mayors and councils, past and present, have supported the public-private partnerships resulting in major investments

in our community which help keep our taxes low.

In the case of the Frisco Conference Center, every week hundreds – and sometime thousands – of visitors from outside the area come and visit Frisco. Oftentimes, I'm invited to speak at many of the events held at the Frisco Conference Center and welcome visitors to our city. One such occasion took place in early March. The Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) conference was held in Frisco.

Thanks to our members of our Parks and Recreation staff for all their hard work to bring this conference to Frisco! This three day conference hosted more than 850 attendees. That means participants spent the night in Frisco, ate in Frisco and went shopping in Frisco. Besides the fact that attendees loved

visiting our community, they helped our local economy, which takes some of the burden from our residents. That is the return on YOUR investment. Now, multiply that by the many conferences held here on a regular basis and I think you can see what is taking place.

Let's also look at Pizza Hut Park. The NCAA awarded Frisco a minimum three-year contract to host the NCAA Division I Football Championship at Pizza Hut Park. This was a great accomplishment for our community and we could not have done it without everyone pulling in the same direction. Our City Council worked on the idea during the annual work session. They envisioned hosting a collegiate football game. What we didn't know is that we would be going after one of the top play-off championship games!!

So, how does this impact our investment in Pizza Hut Park? The vision of previous councils to invest in the facility has paid off dividends since opening day. Whether it is the Jimmy Buffett concert or the international Dallas Cup, the real economic impact is very measurable. In the case of the recent award of the NCAA Division I football championship, the direct economic impact is estimated at nearly \$1 million.

I want to thank our residents and business owners for continuing to support our community by investing in our future. We are well on the way to creating a very sustainable community for our children.

Regards,
Mayor Maher Maso

VISIT US ON THE WEB!

Looking for detailed information about a City of Frisco service or event? Check out **FriscoTexas.gov**, your complete guide to the city government. Look for the latest alerts and press releases on the home page, or sign up to receive City of Frisco news to your email address. To subscribe, go to the home page and click on 'E-News'.

Now you can watch the Frisco Television Network (FTVN) live, 24-hours a day -- including Frisco City Council meetings -- online. From the home page, click on the green 'Watch' icon on the right-side menu. You will automatically connect to the 'Video on Demand' page. You can also select live programming or live city council meetings. Live city council meetings air the first and third Tuesdays of the month beginning at approximately 6:30 p.m.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!

Sign up to get tweets about the latest
City of Frisco news and events.

Twitter.com/CityofFriscoTX



Phone book recycling contest valentine to the environment



Fewer phone books are collecting dust around Frisco since Frisco ISD schools and Frisco Environmental Services recently completed the 4th annual Valentine's Day phone book recycling contest. This contest invites children and families to bring in old phone books to be recycled. The contest lasts for two weeks.

The winners are chosen by calculating the highest collection per student population. The concept of this contest is to help students and families make a connection between the recycling programs at school and the residential recycling programs they can use at home.

This year's winning

school was Allen Elementary with a total of 2,088 phonebooks collected. Fowler collected the most out of any middle school

and Frisco High collected the most among the high schools. District-wide students collected a total of 11,804 phone books.

the stats

Since the annual contest began in 2007, Fisd schools collected a total of 78,964 phone books. That number results in an environmental savings of:

- 1,099,000 gallons of water
- 518 cubic yards of landfill space
- 72,691 gallons of oil
- 92,159 pounds of air pollution
- 4,867 trees
- 643,700 kilowatts of electricity
(enough to serve 80 homes for a full year)

Frisco Environmental Services thanks the following people from Allen Elementary for their hard work during the 2010 phonebook recycling drive:

Teresa Wilkinson – Principal

Monica Treadwell – Assistant Principal

Kelli Scoggins – Recycling Coordinator

Debi Meuret – PTA President

Jens Eltze – PTA Environmental Chair

annual Clean It and Green It on April 24 in the IKEA parking lot, located at 7171 Ikea Dr. Read more about Clean It and Green It on page 8.

All documents are destroyed to protect your personal information, on-site while you watch, and are recycled after shredding. In 2009, Frisco residents destroyed and recycled 29,940 pounds of documents at Chunk Your Junk events.

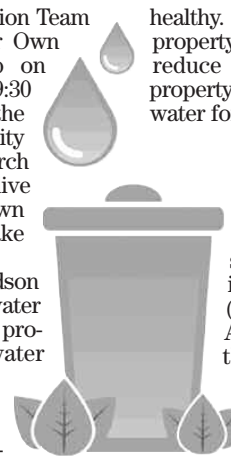
Not able to make it to the spring Chunk Your Junk? Sierra Shred offers a paid shredding service on the first Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Environmental Collection Center, 6616 Walnut St.

While getting documents shredded, Frisco residents can also drop off their household chemicals and electronic waste for safe disposal.

Saving from a rainy day

Frisco's Water Education Team is hosting a "Make Your Own Rain Barrel" workshop on Saturday, April 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Frisco Public Works facility located at 11300 Research Rd. Participants will dive into making their very own 55-gallon rain barrel to take home.

Hear from Dotty Woodson on the benefits of rainwater harvesting. Woodson is a program specialist for water resources with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. She specializes in landscape water conservation, rainwater harvesting and irrigation efficiency.



healthy. Adding a rain barrel to your property is a low cost, easy way to reduce surface run-off from your property. The rain barrel retains the water for later use.

About the Workshop

Space will be limited, so please sign up early. The cost is \$10 per person. The deadline for registration and payment (cash or check) is Friday, April 2. Learn more about the workshop by visiting FriscoTexas.gov/water. Please contact the Water Education Team about registration and availability at 972-292-5814 or waterwise@friscotexas.gov.

If you cannot make it to the workshop, learn how to make your own rain barrel online. Visit Frisco's Green Living Web site at **FriscoGreenLiving.com**. There you can read about Frisco Water Education intern Laura Gorecki's experience with making her very first rain barrel.

Why Use a Rain Barrel?

An estimated 50 percent of all monthly household water use is for watering landscape. Rain barrels can cut down on the need to run a sprinkler system, which often apply more water than is needed to keep plants

Time to Switch Your Sprinklers to Daylight Saving Time

When you adjusted your clocks for Daylight Saving Time (DST), did you remember to adjust your sprinklers? As part of the City of Frisco's Water Management Plan, time of day restrictions begin with DST. This year DST runs from March 14 through November 7. During DST outdoor watering is not allowed between 5 a.m. and 8 a.m. and between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

These watering times were adopted to help reduce what Public Works Director Gary Hartwell calls a "water traffic jam." "In addition to requiring no watering during the heat of the day due to evaporation, Frisco chose to adopt the 5 a.m. to 8 a.m. hours to offset the demand for water when residents are getting ready for work and school," said Hartwell.

The plan also recommends limiting outdoor watering to two-days-per-week with the start of Daylight Saving Time through June 30. From July 1 through September 30, two-day-a-week watering becomes mandatory for the summer months. The mandatory watering schedule coincides with residents' trash and recycling service day plus an additional day. The watering day schedule is available to view online at

FriscoTexas.gov/water.

"Some of our residents wonder why we exercise water restrictions given our recent snowy and wet months, and the fact that North Texas isn't experiencing drought at this time," said Mayor Maher Maso. "As a member of the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) we work collectively as a region to promote water efficiency because it's important to the prospective development of reservoirs for future generations. We always encourage our residents to use what they need, but don't waste water. Use it wisely and efficiently."

Restrictions apply to automatic sprinkler systems. Hand watering, soaker hoses, and drip/bubbler systems are allowed at any time on any day of the year.

Help with any of your outdoor watering questions is always available online at **FriscoTexas.gov/water**. There you can also read the complete contents of the City of Frisco Water Management Plan. The Frisco City Council adopted the plan in April 2009 to comply with a state law that required Texas cities to adopt and/or update their water conservation and drought contingency plans.



**CHUNK
YOUR JUNK**
APRIL 24
8 A.M. - NOON

Think green and safe when you dispose of documents

Do you need to get rid of some documents, but want to be "green" about it? Frisco Environmental Services offers a free shredding service quarterly at the Chunk Your Junk events. The next event will be held in conjunction with the 40th anniversary of Earth Day and the city's

Monthly Road Project Update

The City of Frisco Engineering Services Department has the most current information on road projects available online. Go to www.friscotexas.gov/projectupdate.

1 City Hall Parking Garage

Scope: Construction of a five-story parking structure to accommodate 574 cars. Design was completed in August 2009. Bids were opened in September 2009. Construction began in December 2009 and is expected to be completed in 12 months. CONSTRUCTION

2 Eldorado Parkway (DNT – Preston Road) w/ overpass

Scope: Construction of three northern lanes and a third lane on the south side for a six-lane divided roadway with median and an overpass at the BNSF Railroad. Tiseo Paving began construction in July 2009. Currently, the contractor is concrete paving the westbound lanes. Estimated completion of construction is late 2010. CONSTRUCTION

3 FM 3537/Main Improvements (Custer-Preston Road)

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. TxDOT's engineer has submitted 95 percent plans for review. The project is anticipated to begin ROW acquisition in Early 2010. Utility adjustments will begin after completion of ROW acquisition. Advertisement for bids should begin in fall 2010. Construction should begin in spring 2011. Anticipated construction time is 24 months. DESIGN

4 FM 423 Improvements (Stewart Creek – Eldorado Parkway) Middle Section

Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. TxDOT opened bids for this project on August 11, 2009. Austin Bridge and Road was the low bidder. Construction will begin in early 2010 and is estimated to require 24 months to complete. PRE-CONSTRUCTION

5 M 423 Improvements (Eldorado Parkway - US 380) North Section

Scope: Replace existing two-

lane asphalt roadway with six-lane concrete roadway with median, including streetlights and traffic signals. Review of 95 percent plans submitted by Dannebaum has been completed by TxDOT and city staff. Advertisement for bids is scheduled for fall 2010 or upon completion of ROW (right of way) acquisition and utility relocation. Construction is estimated to require 24 months to complete. DESIGN

6 FM 2478/Custer Road (Stonebridge - US 380)

Scope: Widen existing two-lane asphalt roadway to six-lane concrete divided roadway. TxDOT opened bids on January 13, 2009. Low bidder was Mario Sinacola and Sons Excavating. Contractor is currently constructing the Wilson Creek Bridge for the future northbound lanes. Construction began in August 2009 and is estimated to take 26 months to complete. CONSTRUCTION

7 Stonebrook Parkway (DNT to Preston Road)

Scope: Install 36 inch water-line, reconstruct westbound lanes to widen roadway to six lanes. Design is approximately 95 percent complete. Design is expected to be completed in early 2010. Construction is estimated to take 14 months to complete. DESIGN

8 SH 289/Preston Road (Main Street - US 380)

Scope: Construct a six-lane divided roadway to replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway. TxDOT opened bids in October 2008. Franchise utilities are currently relocating utilities. Mario Sinacola and Sons began construction in August 2009. The contractor is constructing the bridges at Panther Creek and Parvin Branch. Estimated date for construction to be completed is in late 2011. CONSTRUCTION

9 Stonebrook Parkway (Legacy – Longhorn)

Scope: Construct four-lane roadway with an underpass at the

BNSF RR, a railroad shoofly and a bridge at Stewart Creek. Project includes federal wetland, permits, & environmental coordination with Corps of Engineers. Design by HNTB is 95 percent complete. Estimated start of construction is fall 2010. DESIGN

10 Rolater Road (Independence - Custer)

Scope: Construct two eastbound lanes to provide four-lane roadway including bridge over Rowlett Creek. Design is 90 percent complete. Construction expected to begin in spring 2010 and will take eight months to complete. DESIGN

11 Lebanon Road & DNT Intersection Improvements

Scope: Construction of additional lanes of traffic for Lebanon to accommodate the NTTA bridge widening. This project will increase the lanes on the EB and WB approaches to the tollway. Design by Kimley-Horn is approximately 95 percent complete. Construction is expected to begin in 2010 and take seven months to complete. DESIGN

12 Eldorado/Independence Parkway Intersection Improvements

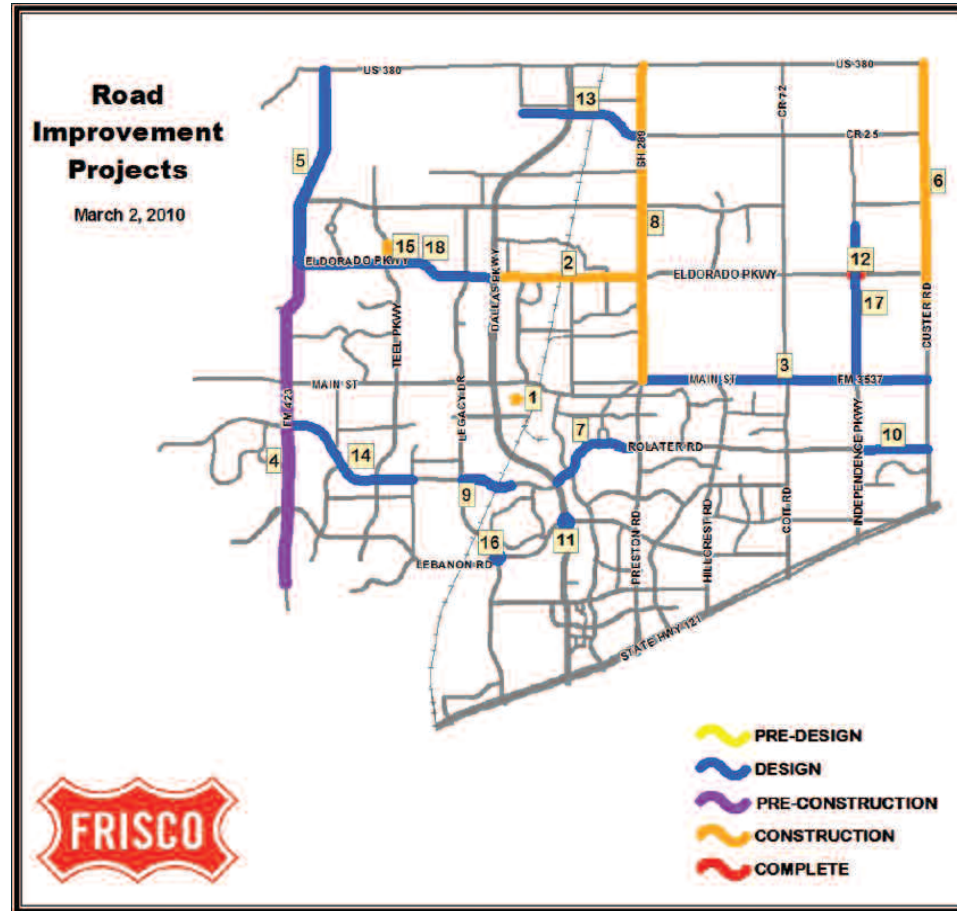
The project includes permanent traffic signals at Eldorado and Independence; a median opening for Fire Station No.5, a westbound to northbound right turn lane on Eldorado to Independence, and two additional lanes to connect existing portions of pavement for eastbound Eldorado traffic. Council awarded construction contract in March 2009. Concrete paving was completed in July 2009. Clean up items and a median opening to the fire station have been completed. The contractor has completed the project. CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED

13 Rockhill Road (Virginia Parkway) (CR26 – Preston Road)

Scope: Construct six-lane roadway, including a bridge over BNSF Railroad and a bridge over Parvin Branch, from County

Road Improvement Projects

March 2, 2010



Road 26 to Preston Road. Design, by Kimley-Horn, is 60 percent complete and expected to be completed in early 2011. Construction will begin when funding for the project is available. DESIGN

14 Stonebrook Parkway (FM 423 to 4th Army Memorial)

Scope: Construct a four-lane roadway between FM 423 and Teel and widen from two lanes to four lanes from Teel to 4th Army Memorial Drive. Design is being done by Huitt Zollars. Design is 90 percent complete and is expected to be completed in early 2010. Construction should be completed by spring 2011. DESIGN

15 Teel Parkway (Eldorado Parkway to Freestone)

Scope: Construct the two northbound lanes to complete the four-lane roadway. Project includes lighting, irrigation and landscaping from Eldorado to

Panther Creek Parkway. Bids were opened on September 17, 2009 with Mario Sinacola and Sons Excavating being the low bidder. Construction began in November 2009 and is expected to be completed in summer 2010. Contractor is currently installing irrigation in median and storm sewers. CONSTRUCTION

16 Legacy and Lebanon Road Intersection

Scope of work is the reconstruction of the intersection to eliminate an existing bump in the pavement and to widen each approach to two left-turn lanes, three through lanes and a right-turn lane. (Northbound Legacy will not have a right turn lane.) Legacy Drive will be widened to six-lanes from Warren Parkway. Eastbound left-turn lanes on Lebanon will be added at Compass Drive and Village Boulevard. Design is 90 percent complete. DESIGN

17 Independence Parkway (Main to North City limits)

Scope of project is the construction of two northbound lanes to complete the four-lane roadway. Design by RLK Engineering began in February 2010. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2010 and to be completed in early 2011. DESIGN

18 Eldorado Parkway Lighting and Landscaping (FM 423 to DNT)

The improvements include sidewalks and lighting and irrigation in median. Design by Kimley-Horn is approximately 30 percent complete. Construction of sidewalks is expected to begin in spring 2010 and to be completed before school starts in August 2010. Lighting and the irrigation and landscaping will be completed in separate contracts. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2010. DESIGN

FRISCO CHILDREN CATCH FISH AND FUN AT TRICK-A-TROUT KID FISH

A cold, cloudy morning did not stop hundreds of Frisco children from catching some fun on February 20. Frisco Parks and Recreation's annual Trick-a-Trout event at Frisco Commons Park gave kids of all ages a chance to make memories with parents, grandparents and friends.

Texas Parks and Wildlife stocked the Frisco Commons pond with about 2,800 trout. The first 30 children who caught a fish received a new fishing pole from Frisco Parks and Recreation.



GOLD

Continued from page 1

staff who work every day to provide the best programs and facilities we can for our residents."

Quality family time is right around the corner at one of the 43 park sites managed by Frisco Parks and Recreation staff. Discover a park or hike and bike trail in your neighborhood and around the city by going online at FriscoFun.org/parks. Play or relax – each park's features are listed so you can find just what you are looking for from playgrounds and spray grounds, basketball and tennis courts, and so much more.

Take your birthday or team celebrations outside. Information about pavilion rentals is also available at FriscoFun.org.



Here's to your health!

National Public Health Week happens April 5 – 11. Frisco's Health and Food Safety Division wants to help you boost your health with free information and giveaways. Stop by the first floor lobby of the George A. Purefoy Municipal Center, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd., on the following days from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Monday, April 5 – Senior Day
 • Information about food safety, immunizations
 • Glucose screening
 • Cold and flu toolkits
 • Diabetes education seminar will be held from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the city council cham-

bers.

Tuesday, April 6 – Healthy Kids

Stop by before the 10 a.m. Dinosaur Roar! Storytime at the Frisco Public Library for the following:

- Information about immunizations
- Review the food pyramid for a guide to keep your kids eating healthy foods
- Cold and flu toolkits

Thursday, April 7 – Summer Fun

Stop by to receive information about healthy swimming and safe, outdoor family fun.

Reminder: April 1 is Census Day

The 2010 U.S. Census should have arrived in your mailbox in March. Have you filled out the 10-question form and mailed it back? Households that have not returned the questionnaire may receive a visit in April from a census taker who will ask you the 10 questions on the form.

You can find more information about the U.S. Census Bureau online at FriscoTexas.gov/Census2010.

United States
Census
2010

IT'S IN OUR HANDS



HOMETOWN HAPPENINGS

April 5

■ Frisco Public Arts Meeting, Conference Room 5A, 6:30 p.m.

April 6

■ City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd., 5:30 p.m.
■ Downtown Advisory Board Meeting, Conference Room 5A, 12 p.m.

April 8

■ Parks and Recreation Meeting, Council Chambers, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd., 6:30 p.m.

April 12

■ Friends of the Library: McCallum Rm, 4th floor, 7 p.m.

April 13

■ Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Meeting, Council Chambers, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd., 5:30 p.m.

April 14

■ Convention Visitors Bureau (CVB), TBD, 12 p.m.
■ Housing Trust Fund, Council Chambers, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd., 7 p.m.

April 15

■ Arts of Collin County (ACC), City of Allen 4 p.m.
■ Community Development Corp. Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

April 20

■ City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd., 5:30 p.m.

April 21

■ Economic Development Corporation Meeting, 6801 Gaylord Pkwy., Suite 200, 6 p.m.

April 22

■ North Texas Municipal Water District Meeting, 505 East Brown St., Wylie, TX., 4 p.m.
■ Frisco Public Library Foundation Board Meeting, Library Board Room, 3rd floor, 7 p.m.

April 26

■ Frisco Neighborhood Watch General Meeting, Police Department, 7:30 p.m.

April 27

■ Heritage Foundation, 10 a.m.
■ Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Meeting, Council Chambers, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd., 5:30 p.m.

April 28

■ Urban Forestry Board, 6726 Walnut St., 6:30 p.m.

Animal Control offers information to help keep families, pets safe

Frisco's Animal Control Administrator Greg Carr offers residents the following information to help you know what to do should you cross paths with a bob cat.

As the temperature rises in spring, so does the chance of encountering a wild animal. Many areas of Frisco are still very rural and are natural habitats for animals such as bob cats and coyotes. Residents may see a bob cat run through their yard or down their street.

The bob cat is common across the entire United States. Although this animal is rarely seen in our cities because of its shy, solitary and reclusive nature, the urban population has been increasing in the Frisco area for many years.

Local bobcats tend to breed in February, bearing litters of two or three kittens in April. The kittens' eyes open at around ten days, and the mother bears sole responsibility for their care. The most common sightings in Frisco are of a female bob cat and her kittens

What do bob cats eat?

Bobcats eat a variety of animal species, including mice, rats, squirrels, chickens, wild birds, feral cats, and rabbits. It's very unlikely, but possible, that free-roaming cats or small dogs left outside unattended might be taken as well. Wild animals naturally look for an 'easy' food source, so if you eliminate the source, the animals will go somewhere else.

Many people accidentally and unknowingly encourage bobcats, coyotes and other wildlife like rodents, to live near their homes by leaving pet food outside, failing to pick up fallen fruit from trees, or leaving bird seed on the ground. Keeping wood piles or dense vegetation around your home can provide hiding places for wildlife.

What function do bobcats serve in our cities?

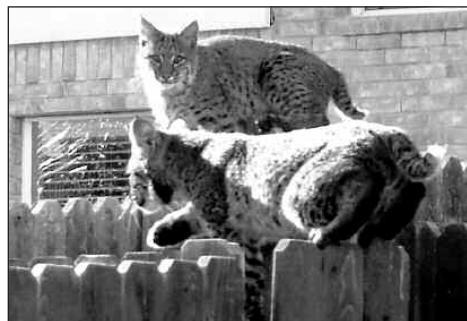
Many ecological studies show that predatory wildlife exists to preserve the balance of nature. Wild animals help to keep the rodent and rabbit populations in check. In the past, some cities have attempted to eradicate predators, but as a result have seen an increase in rodent and rabbit population.

The ways of nature can sometimes seem cruel to us, but many prey and rodent species would overrun both rural and urban areas, damaging crops and vegetation, if their natural predators did not keep them in check. Bob cats and other predators also consume carrion (dead animals) which provides waste removal.

Why not trap and relocate bobcats to the country?

There are many reasons why trapping and removal is not a long-term, viable solution. For instance:

- If there is a litter of kittens, it is difficult to trap and relocate the entire family. If only the mother is trapped and removed, the young are left behind to die of dehydration and starvation. If the entire bobcat family is trapped, often the young are too small to travel with the mother and are left behind when the mother is released at a new location.



A walk on the wild side... the two cubs above were photographed in the Sterling Ranch neighborhood in October 2009.

- Recommended long term solutions for homeowners involve modification of the premises. Address the factors that attract wild animals, such as gaps in construction that allow access to the attic or under the deck; eliminate thick undergrowth in landscaped areas. Modification to the environment creates an inhospitable atmosphere, and will encourage wild animals to relocate. Such changes will prevent roaming wildlife from showing an interest in staying on your property.

I'm worried about my children . . .

Bob cats are not known to attack people. In fact, bob cat attacks are virtually unknown; however, no one should ever attempt to touch or handle a wild bob cat or her kittens. Bob cats weigh between 15 and 40 pounds, which makes them small-to-medium sized carnivores. Carnivore biology studies show that carnivores in this weight range take prey that is "much smaller" than they are.

I'm worried about my pets . . .

Here's how you can protect your pets from bobcats and other wild animals:

- Always walk your dog on a leash.
- Always keep pets vaccinated as some wildlife are susceptible to diseases transmissible to dogs and cats, i.e. feline panleukopenia (feline parvo), canine distemper, and rabies.
- Take steps to ensure you are not attracting predators to your yard – clean up brushy areas or wood piles, and remove any food sources.
- Do not allow cats to roam free outdoors.
- Avoid bushy areas or paths near abandoned properties.
- If you notice a coyote or bob cat in your area, never let it go by without scaring it. Yell or clap loudly to scare wildlife away. In the long run it is much safer for us, our pets, and the wildlife as well – if they remain fearful of

humans.

- Never encourage or allow your pet to interact or "play" with wildlife.
- Make sure your fence is in good repair.
- Do not leave pets unattended outdoors.

How can I discourage bob cats from coming into my yard?

Bob cats are quiet, shy and reclusive. Typically, it is easy to persuade them to leave. We recommend the use of deterrents and adjustments around the exterior of your home (all endorsed by the Humane Society of the United States) for making your yard and home less inviting to wildlife. Try these tactics:

- Use noise and/or motion-activated deterrents to make a bob cat uncomfortable.
- Try an air horn or motion-activated sprinkler; bang pot lids together, or put a radio outside set to a news or talk channel.
- Clear any excess vegetation to remove secluded hiding spots.
- Do not leave pet food or water outside when your pet is indoors.
- Pick fruit from trees as soon as it ripens and pick up all fallen fruit.
- If you feed the birds or squirrels, ensure there is no overflowing bird seed on the ground to attract rodents at night, or restrict feeding. Bob cats can be attracted to the squirrels and birds that come to our yards to feed.
- Use fencing to deter bob cats. Fencing must be at least six feet high with the bottom extending 6-12 inches below ground level. Add an angle at the top facing outward at 45 degrees, and 16 inches in width.
- Do not leave small pets outdoors unattended or in a poorly-enclosed yard.
- If you have chickens or fowl, ensure they are put up at night.

Many of our residents love to see a bob cat in their neighborhood saying that is why they bought their home near wooded areas. Some residents get concerned when they see a bob cat. Most of the time, it is because they do not understand the animal. Frisco Animal Control only becomes involved if bob cats or coyotes become injured or happen to become a nuisance in a neighborhood.

The Frisco Police Department asks residents to not try to run off, shoot at, or trap any wild animal that they encounter. Please do not shoot any weapons in an attempt to scare off wild animals that you may encounter. Frisco city ordinance prohibits discharging a firearm within the city limits.

Contact Us

Calls are welcomed so that we can answer questions. The phone number for Animal Control is (972) 292-5303. The email address is animalcontrol@friscotexas.gov

Find links on the city Web site: FriscoTexas.gov/animalcontrol to view a wildlife seminar presented by Texas Parks and Wildlife that includes information about bob cats and coyotes. We encourage residents to view that seminar. The Web site also has links to many other resources including DFW Wildlife: dfwwildlife.org.

Questions about wildlife?

We have answers!
Call: (972) 292-5303

Email:
animalcontrol@friscotexas.gov

Online:
FriscoTexas.gov/animalcontrol



Frisco Fire Safety Town tops 125,000 visitors



In its third full year of operation, Frisco Fire Safety Town recently celebrated having more than 125,000 people visit their one-of-a-kind safety education program since inception. Overseen by the Frisco Fire Department, Safety Town provides free safety education programs to elementary-aged children daily during study trips arranged through public, private and home schools.

Visit us anytime online: FriscoTexas.gov/SafetyTown

As Frisco Fire Safety Town celebrates its third anniversary, the Frisco Fire Department would like to gratefully acknowledge those who have contributed to its success:

Architects Phelps Wood Kaufman Company
Babe's Chicken
Lee Lewis Construction
BELO
Leigh Glendenning Real Estate
Centennial Medical Center
Llano Utilities
City of Frisco
Mario Sinacola and Sons
CORE Construction
North Texas Tollway Authority
CoServ Gas
Oncor Electric
D. R. Horton
Pavestone
The Dallas Morning News
Petri Electric
Dave Manders Landscaping
Dr. and Mrs. Erwin Pink
E-One
Prosperity Bank
Fannin Tree Farm
Pulte Homes
Farmers Insurance Company
Richardson Bike Mart
Fed-Ex Kinko's
Rodman Companies
Frisco I.S.D.
Steve Roberts Homes
Frisco Noon and Sunrise Rotary
Tyler Technologies
Holmatro
Wal-Mart
K. Hovnanian Homes
WFAA-TV

Give us your best shot!



Give us your best shot, and your photo may be the next cover of the Frisco Fun Guide! The Parks & Recreation Department is looking for photos of our citizens enjoying our parks, recreation classes, facilities and special events.

If you have a great photo of your child or family enjoying the recreation opportunities Frisco has to offer, send them to us. If we use your photo on the cover of our Frisco Fun Guide, we'll thank you with a one month family pass to the Frisco Athletic Center!

Photos should be emailed to FriscoFun@FriscoFun.org and should be high resolution photos (at least 300

dpi). Please include contact information, names of the individuals in the photo, and the class, park, facility, or event where that the photo was taken.

By submitting your photos, you are giving the City of Frisco the right to use them for marketing, promotional or advertising purposes both singly and in conjunction with other people or objects.

You never know where you might see a familiar face! Don't forget to pick up the latest copy of the Frisco Fun Guide to see if you or someone you know made the cover.



Dive into summer fun with the Frisco Fun Guide

Your summer entertainment has arrived. Find something fun for every child at camps and classes offered through the Frisco Parks & Recreation Department. Discover art camps, dance camps, sports camps, our very popular LEGO camps and much more in the summer edition of the Frisco Fun Guide.

Those ready to get a jump on summer can preview the Fun

Guide online beginning Monday, April 2 at FriscoFun.org. Members of the Frisco Athletic Center may begin registering May 3. Registration will be open to everyone beginning May 5.

A copy of the activity guide will be mailed to Frisco Athletic Center members and those who have participated in a class within the last year. If you do not receive a copy of the Frisco Fun Guide in the

mail, you may pick one up at the following locations:

- Frisco Public Library, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd.
- Parks & Recreation Administration Building, 6726 Walnut St.
- Frisco Athletic Center, 5828 Nancy Jane Ln.
- Frisco Chamber of Commerce, 6843 W. Main St.

The Frisco Fun Guide is filled

with information on camps, classes and special events offered through the Parks & Recreation Department. Registration is available online at FriscoFun.org or in-person at the Frisco Athletic Center, located at 5828 Nancy Jane Ln., during regular hours of operation.

For more information email us at FriscoFun@FriscoTexas.gov.

Shawnee Cowboy Day brings Old West to Frisco

Yee haw, Frisco! The rough and tough antics of the cowboy lifestyle are yours to experience at Frisco Heritage Museum's Shawnee Cowboy Day, April 24. Immerse yourself in this iconic Old West culture and experience clashes between cattlemen and towns folk, which have provided the Western tapestry with colorful stories.

The Heritage Museum invites everyone to come on out and make their own family stories and memories from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Frisco Heritage Center, located at 6455 Page St. Take a stagecoach ride just like they did way back when, but watch out for stagecoach bandits. Witness authentic gun fights performed by the

Trinity River Desperadoes and experience what it was like to learn in a one-room school house.

Cowboy Randy, professional cowboy storyteller, musician and singer, is sure to delight kids and adults alike with his own brand of roving performances throughout the day. While you are having all this interactive cowboy fun, don't forget to take a gander at the museum's permanent exhibits offering snapshots into Frisco's history.

Event admission is \$5 per person and available through the museum store the day of the event. Children ages six and younger are free. See the museum Web site for more information: FriscoMuseum.com

Planning a trip? Start at the library

Trip-planning just became easier: Frisco Public Library now offers a variety of travel kits. Pick a destination and check out the kit. Books and videos are in the kits, along with information about useful Web sites. You can learn more about your destination and find hints for a more enjoyable vacation (or business trip).

A list of suggested books and videos from our collection is also in each kit. These include fiction as well as nonfiction (history, biography, travel, etc.), for both adults and children. The whole family can join in the fun of learning about your vacation site and make the most of every minute during your trip.

The kits are great for armchair

travelers as well. You can explore a place you may not be able to actually visit. The initial travel kit destinations include Alaska, Hawaii, Colorado, Texas, New England, Florida, Southern California, Mexico, and more. In the coming months new destinations will be added. If you have a favorite destination you would like to have included in a travel kit, just let us know.

Travel kits are checked out at the fourth-floor Ask Us Desk. Take a look at the possibilities as you plan your spring-break trip, or look forward to summer travel. Visit the library's Web site www.friscolibrary.com or call us at 972-292-5669 (KNOW) to learn more about this and our other services.

Frisco celebrates 40 years of Earth Day with annual Clean It and Green It event

Clean It and Green It
Saturday, April 24

Registration/Check In
8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Citywide Clean Up
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Earth Day Celebration
11:15 a.m.

Join the Frisco Green Team in celebrating the 40th anniversary of Earth Day with our successful city-wide clean up event "Clean It & Green It" on Saturday, April 24, in the IKEA parking lot, 7171 IKEA Dr.

This is a program which promotes environmental awareness in our city and increases volunteerism and pride in our community.

Check in at IKEA on April 24 will be from 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., and the clean up will last from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in neighborhoods across Frisco. Volunteers will be assigned to an area of Frisco to clean when they check in.

All participants are invited to return to IKEA for an Earth Day celebration including food, games and prizes beginning at 11:15 a.m.

Registered volunteers will also be in a drawing for raffle prizes, receive a green gift and t-shirt, and enjoy a free IKEA lunch. Plus, Rufus - Frisco's favorite recycling dog - will join everyone for the fun.

Individuals and families can register the day of the event or pre-register online at myvolunteerpage.com or contact Volunteer Coordinator Kris Daniel, by email: volunteer@friscotexas.gov, or call 972-292-5078.

HOA's, schools, churches and community groups are also encouraged to preregister and receive clean up supplies in advance to hold 'Clean It and Green It' events in their own neighborhoods.

For 'group' preregistration or more information about the event, please contact Frisco Environmental Education Coordinator Jeremy Starritt at (972) 292-5914 or JStarritt@FriscoTexas.gov.

The spring 'Chunk Your Junk' event will also be happening in the IKEA parking lot on April 24 from 8 a.m. to noon. For a list of items you can drop off to recycle, donate or safely dispose of, go online to FriscoTexas.gov/recycle.



COLLEGEFOOTBALLFRISCO.COM

The 2010 NCAA Division I Football Championship game will be played at Pizza Hut Park on January 7, 2011. Frisco will host the game the next three years. Winning the bid to host was a group effort. The 'Team Frisco' members who contributed are pictured above. Front row (left to right): Kathleen Stewart, Marketing Director - Frisco Economic Development Corporation; Jenny McGhee, Assoc. Commissioner - Southland Conference; Mayor Maher Maso; Tom Burnett, Commissioner - Southland Conference; Tony Felker, President/CEO - Frisco Chamber of Commerce; Jim Gandy, President - Frisco Economic Development Corporation; Marla Roe, Executive Director - Frisco Convention and Visitors Bureau. Not pictured: Dana Baird, Director of Communications and Media Relations - City of Frisco. Back row (left to right): Bruce Ludlow, Associate Commissioner - Southland Conference; Nick Shafer, Dir. Business Operations - Pizza Hut Park; Todd Lamb, Assoc. Commissioner for Communications - Southland Conference; John Wagner, President Hunt Sports Group, Scott Johnson, Frisco City Council; City Manager George Purefoy; Damon Boettcher, VP of Operations - Pizza Hut Park